IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 2 and 4 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please AMEND the claim as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-path numerical control device that analyzes a program of each path and controls each path ~~on the basis of~~ in accordance with the program, comprising:

means for dividing the paths into groups and storing ~~the~~ a result of this division as group information; ~~and~~

means for controlling group-unit stoppage ~~control means that,~~ when an alarm is ~~produced~~ detected in any of the paths during operation of the multi-path numerical control device, stopping the operation of all the paths belonging to the group ~~to which the path in which~~ where the alarm was ~~produced belongs on the basis of~~ detected in accordance with the group information~~,~~; and

means for selecting whether to validate a function of the means for controlling group-unit stoppage or to invalidate and stop the function.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A multi-path numerical control device that analyzes a program of each path and controls each path ~~on the basis of~~ in accordance with the program, comprising:

means for dividing the paths into groups and storing ~~the~~ a result of this division as group information; ~~and~~

means for controlling group-unit stoppage ~~control means that,~~ when any of the paths undergoes single-block stoppage during operation of the multi-path numerical control device, stopping the operation of all the paths belonging to the group ~~to which the path undergoing~~ where the single-block stoppage ~~belongs on the basis of~~ occurred in accordance with the group information~~,~~; and

means for selecting whether to validate a function of the means for controlling group-unit stoppage or invalidate and stop the function.

4. (Canceled)